

Columbia Basin College Nuclear Scholarship Program

Executive Summary:

Columbia Basin College (CBC) request funding in correspondence with the initial offering of the Non-Licensed Operator Option in Nuclear Technology. The new Operator program is scheduled to begin winter quarter 2011. Funding will provide approximately 24 scholarships for students enrolled in the Nuclear Technology program with 12 scholarships reserved for students pursuing the Non-Licensed Operator Option.

The addition of the Non-Licensed Operator program to existing Reactor and Nuclear Facilities as well as Radiological Protection Technology programs will allow CBC to meet the workforce needs of the local nuclear industry. CBC's Nuclear Technology program will provide a pipeline of highly qualified and talented workforce to fill the void left by retiring employees. NRC support will be a critical component in program development by providing necessary funding for academic scholarships and promotional activities designed to recruit a diverse and highly skilled cohort of nuclear technology students.

Recruiting activities will ensure that a diverse pool of potential scholarship recipients is available from which to award well-qualified students. CBC will use the NRC funding opportunity to provide approximately 24 scholarships. Each scholarship will fund tuition, fees, and books for one year of enrollment, with future funding contingent on student performance and continuation of grant funding.

Principal Investigator: Derek Brandes, dbrandes@columbiabasin.edu